

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, all the claims pending in the application, stand rejected. Claim 1 has been amended. Claims 7-10 are newly added.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. The Examiner questions the meaning of the term % in claim 1. The Examiner notes that the cited symbol is used on page 11 of the present specification, but notes that it is not defined.

Previously, Applicants expressed a belief that it represents a notation “proportional to,” but was unable to find a citation to support this assertion. Applicants withdraw that belief and now state that the symbol “%” means “modulo operation.” Applicants now have found express support in the original specification. Specifically, Applicants respectfully refer the Examiner to page 16, line 22 and continuing through page 20, line 14. See especially equation 3 on page 20 which is the exact equation at issue and which explicitly states what the “%” means.

The claims have been amended to state this definition. On the basis of the foregoing, the rejection should be withdrawn.

Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. § 101:

Claims 1-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. The Examiner asserts that the claim must have a concrete, tangible and useful result, and asserts that none is stated in the claim.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the final step is “applying said signals from said cyclically noncontinuous output bins to demultiplexing at least one carrier.” This is a concrete and tangible and useful result.

Support for this addition appears at page 1 of the specification where the use of an FFT to generate spectrum information from sets of data that vary in time (spectrum analysis) is described and the use of FFT processing in communications applications, especially demultiplexing, is taught. The use of the FFT for multicarrier demultiplexing is expressly stated.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114(c)
U.S. Appln. No. 09/980,780

Attorney Docket No.: A7710

This is precisely the application that is intended, where the invention provides improved pruning techniques when demultiplexing is conducted using FFTs.

New claims 7-10 parallel claims 1-4 and state the steps from the program product in terms of a method for demultiplexing.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

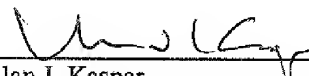
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